

State of Delaware Historical and Cultural Affairs

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

News Release

Governor Minner Proclaims May as Delaware Archaeology Awareness Month 2006

(Dover, Delaware—May 2, 2006)—On Tuesday, May 2, Governor Ruth Ann Minner issued a proclamation declaring the month of May as Delaware Archaeology Awareness Month 2006. Delaware Archaeology Awareness Month is designed to



*Delaware Archaeology Awareness Month 2005
excavation on the New Castle Green.*

promote the study and conservation of Delaware's archaeological resources and to reflect on the vital role of archaeology in revealing the cultural legacy of the state. This year's activities, based on the theme, "Wheels of Fortune: Delaware Mills," will include demonstrations of a working grist mill at Abbott's Mill in Milford; a lecture/demonstration, "Archaeology Shows How It Works," at the Greenbank Mill in Wilmington; and a lecture, "Excavations at Cabbage Mill," at the Milton Public Library.

In addition to these theme-based programs, Delaware Archaeology Awareness Month will feature an array of state-wide activities including archaeological digs, children's hands-on learning sessions, lectures, demonstrations, festivals, and exhibits. A Delaware Archaeology Awareness Month calendar of events and an event poster are attached.

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Delaware's rich and diverse archaeological heritage has made front-page news in recent months with the sudden and mysterious appearance of historic artifacts on Lewes Beach, followed by the discovery of their source—a previously unknown 18th-century shipwreck found a few-hundred yards off-shore. Excitement surrounding these discoveries reflects continued public fascination with the results of archaeological investigation. Delaware Archaeology Awareness Month activities will provide additional information about these discoveries, while at the same time, providing insight into the tools, methodologies, and techniques of archaeological research and the essential role that archaeology plays in helping to define and understand Delaware's unique "sense of place."



Miniature cup and saucer recovered as part of the excavation of the Lewes shipwreck.



Archaeological excavation of Cabbage Mill near Milford.

Delaware Archaeology Awareness Month is sponsored by a broad-based consortium of organizations and individuals including the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, the Delaware Department of State, the Archaeological Society of Delaware, the Delaware Division of Parks and Recreation, the Delaware Department of Transportation, the University of Delaware Department of Anthropology, Preservation Delaware, Inc., professional archaeologists, and many others. Funding is provided, in part, by a grant from the Delaware Humanities Forum.

For additional information regarding Delaware Archaeology Awareness Month, call the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs at (302) 736-7400 or visit the following website: www.delawarearchaeology.org.

The Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs (HCA) is an agency of the State of Delaware. HCA enhances Delaware's quality of life by preserving the state's unique historical heritage, fostering community stability and economic vitality, and providing educational programs and assistance to the general public on Delaware history and heritage. HCA operates eight museums and two conference centers, and manages over thirty historic properties across Delaware. Funding for HCA's museums, programs, and services is provided by annual appropriations from the Delaware General Assembly, revenue from HCA's History Stores, and grants from the National Park Service, a federal agency.

Delaware Archaeology Awareness Month
Calendar of Events
May, 2006

New Castle County Events

May 6, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Price's Corner area

Brandywine Springs Park Excavation. Help the Friends of Brandywine Springs! Family fun for everyone! Bring gloves. Corner of Newport Gap Pike and Faulkland Road. Sponsors: Friends of Brandywine Springs and Archaeological Society of Delaware. For information, call Mike Ciosek at (302) 994-0536.

May 6 and 7, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. White Clay Creek State Park

Bryan Farm Excavation Site. Help the archaeologists! Observe or join in! Pre-registration required; participants under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Sponsor: Delaware State Parks. For information, registration, and directions, call (302) 368-6900.

May 16, 7 p.m. New Castle

New Castle Artifact Stories. Presented by Lu Ann De Cunzo, archaeologist from the University of Delaware Department of Anthropology, and University of Delaware students. New Castle Court House Museum, 211 Delaware St. Sponsors: University of Delaware Department of Anthropology, New Castle Community History and Archaeology Program, Historical Society of Delaware, and Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. For information, call Cindy Snyder at (302) 323-4453.

May 17, 7 p.m. Price's Corner area

"Archaeology Shows How It Works at Greenbank." Presented by Greenbank Mill executive director Tony Shahan. Greenbank Mill, 500 Greenbank Road. Sponsors: Archaeological Society of Delaware and Greenbank Mill Associates. For information, call (302) 999-9001.

May 18, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. New Castle

International Museum Day. Special activities for children, on-going archaeological exhibits, and more. New Castle Court House Museum, 211 Delaware St. Sponsor: Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. For information, call Cindy Snyder at (302) 323-4453.

May 20, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. New Castle

Archaeology at 'A Day in Old New Castle.' Archaeology programs including exhibits, demonstrations, artifact identification, and student activities will take place on the New Castle Green and in the New Castle Court House Museum. Sponsor: Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. For information, call Cindy Snyder at (302) 323-4453 (museum events) or A Day in Old New Castle at (302) 322-5774 (other events, ticket required; www.dayinoldnewcastle.org).

May 21, Noon–5 p.m. Newark area

Archaeology Festival at Iron Hill Museum. Help archaeologists dig! Learn about Native American heritage! Living history, hands-on activities, and demonstrations. Iron Hill Museum, 1355 Old Baltimore Pike. Pre-registration is requested for those who are interested in working on an excavation. Sponsor: Delaware Academy of Science. \$3.50 fee. For information or to pre-register, call Laura Mackie Lee at (302) 368-5703.

May 23, 7 p.m. New Castle

"Archaeology of the Underground Railroad." Presented by archaeologist Cheryl LaRoche. New Castle Court House Museum, 211 Delaware St. Sponsor: Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. For information, call Cindy Snyder at (302) 323-4453.

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Kent County Events

May 2, 10 a.m. Dover

Governor's Proclamation of Delaware Archaeology Awareness Month 2006. Come celebrate with us at our kick-off event! Delaware State Visitors Center and Galleries, 406 Federal St. For information, call Beverly Laing at (302) 739-4266.

May 6, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Dover

Archaeology at 'Old Dover Days.' Programs to include exhibits, artifact identification, Native American culture, atlatl throwing, and student activities. Delaware State Visitors Center and Galleries, 406 Federal St., and Delaware Archaeology Museum, 316 S. Governors Ave. Sponsor: Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. For information, call Beverly Laing at (302) 739-4266 (DHCA events) or (302) 734-1736 (Old Dover Days).

May 9, 7 p.m. Dover

"The Battle at Monmouth: Archaeologists, Cartographers, and Historians Rout Confusion." Presented by Garry Wheeler Stone, historian from Monmouth Battlefield State Park. DNREC auditorium, 89 Kings Highway. Sponsors: Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs and the Archaeological Society of Delaware. For information, call Cherie Dodge at (302) 736-7400.

May 15, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Dover

Preservation Conference: "The Value of Preservation: For Passion and Profit." Featuring topics of interest to homeowners, developers, contractors, preservationists, and the public. Registration fee. Schwartz Center for the Arts, 226 S. State St. Sponsors: Preservation Delaware, Inc., Delaware Economic Development Office, First State Heritage Park, and Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. For information, call Cherie Dodge at (302) 736-7400.

May 18, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Dover

International Museum Day. On-going archaeological exhibits and special activities for children. Delaware Archaeology Museum, 316 S. Governors Ave., and the John Dickinson Plantation, 340 Kitts Hummock Road. Sponsor: Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. For information, call the Delaware State Visitors Center and Galleries at (302) 739-4266.

May 25, 7 p.m. Dover

"Delaware's United States Colored Troops: A Look at James Elbert of Delaware City." Presented by David Orr, archaeologist from Temple University. Delaware State Visitors Center and Galleries, 406 Federal St. Sponsor: Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. For information, call (302) 739-4266.

Sussex County Events

May 4, Noon. Lewes

"Zinnsoldaten in the Delaware Bay or, The Invasion Army That Never Landed." Lunch & Learn program presented by Craig Lukezic, archaeologist from the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. Bring a bag lunch. Cape Henlopen State Park, 42 Cape Henlopen Drive. Sponsor: Cape Henlopen State Park. For information, call Richard Julian at (302) 645-6852.

May 4, 7 p.m. Bethany Beach

"The Lost Radeau." Presented by Vincent Capone, remote sensing expert for Barkentine, Inc. South Coastal Library, 43 Kent Ave. Sponsor: South Coastal Library. For information, call Priscilla Scott at (302) 539-5231.

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May 6, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Milford

"The Power of Water." Step inside the newly-restored mill at Abbott's Pond near Milford and see, hear, and feel just how powerful and useful water can be! Abbott's Mill Nature Center, 15411 Abbott's Pond Road. Fee: \$5 adults, \$3 children under 16. Sponsor: Delaware Nature Society. For information or to pre-register for a tour, call (302) 422-0847.

May 6, Noon–3 p.m. Oak Orchard area

Nanticoke Living Heritage Day. Instruction and hands-on pottery-making for children and adults, dancers in traditional regalia, storytellers, and more. Nanticoke Indian Museum, 27073 John J. Williams Highway (corner of routes 24 and 5). No fee. Sponsor: Nanticoke Indian Association. For information, call the Museum at (302) 945-7022.

May 7, 1-4 p.m. Ocean View

"Bear Trap Dunes, Then and Now." Program on the history and archaeology of farm life. Speakers: Dan Griffith, Project Director, Lewes Maritime Archaeology Project; Edward McWilliams, Curator of Exhibits, Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs; Russ McCabe, Director, Delaware Public Archives; and Heather Wholey, Assistant Professor, West Chester University. Dunes Room, Village at Bear Trap Dunes Clubhouse, Central Ave. Sponsors: Village at Bear Trap Dunes Historical Committee and Carl M. Freeman Communities. For information and directions, call Christi McHale at (302) 537-5600, Ext. 5.

May 11, 7 p.m. Bethany Beach

"Studies of the Lewes Shipwreck." Presented by Dan Griffith, Project Director, Lewes Maritime Archaeology Project. South Coastal Library, 43 Kent Ave. Sponsor: South Coastal Library. For information, call Priscilla Scott at (302) 539-5231.

May 18, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Lewes

International Museum Day. On-going exhibit of Lewes history including HMB DeBraak artifacts and recent finds at Lewes Beach, special children's activities, and more. Zwaanendael Museum, 102 Kings Highway (Kings Highway at Savannah Road). Sponsor: Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. For information, call the museum at (302) 645-1148.

May 27, 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. and May 28, Noon–4:30 p.m. Lewes

Zwaanendael Archaeology Festival. See updates on the Lewes Beach shipwreck, have artifacts identified by professional archeologists, and experience living history demonstrations. Participants include: Delaware's Historic Preservation Office, The Archaeological Society of Delaware, Delaware Marine Archaeological Society, Nauticus Maritime Center, Kalmar Nyckel Foundation, and the Regiment of Foote (living historians). Zwaanendael Museum, 102 Kings Highway (Kings Highway at Savannah Road). Sponsor: Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. For information, call the museum at (302) 645-1148.

May 31, 6:30 p.m. Milton

"Excavations at Cubbage Mill." Presented by Ben Resnick, archaeologist for GAI Consultants, Inc. Milton Public Library, 121 Union St. Sponsors: Milton Public Library and Milton Historical Society. For information, call (302) 684-8856.

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WHEELS of FORTUNE

Delaware Mills

Archaeology Month May 2006

Discarded mill stone found in the head race pit

Floor mill equipment

Excavation of the headrace and discovery of a board-nod piece in another mill

Greenbank Mill
Elsmere, DE

Creek Dayell Mill
Creek's Bridge, DE

Remains of the water control gate

For more information, visit:
www.delawarearchaeology.org

Abbott's Mill
Millsboro, DE

Cuthbert Mill
Millsboro, DE

Excavation at Cuthbert Mill site

Mixstone

2005

2006

1919

1910-1915



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